

PATENT
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REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 11-27 are pending. In the office action, all pending claims are rejected.

At section 3 of the office action, the Examiner rejects the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Glorikian* (U.S. Patent No. 6,343,317), in view of *Fukui* (U.S. Patent No. 6,131,119).

The Examiner states the *Glorikian* discloses a method of locating network devices. The Examiner admits that *Glorikian* fails to disclose associating the physical location to a network address so that the network device can be used in coordinating the designated function of the network device, but points to *Fukui* to disclose the same.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, 9, 11 and 21 to include the limitations that the network devices are used in an automation environment such that the network devices have designated functions to be carried out in a coordinated way as required in the automation environment. The network device further has a software program stored therein so as to allow the network address associated with the identified network physical location to cause the stored software program in the network device to carry out the designated function in relation to other network devices. The support for the amendment can be found at p.5, first and second paragraphs of the specification. No new matter has been introduced.

It is respectfully submitted that *Glorikian* discloses a method of locating the position of a traveling tourist or museum visitor so as to provide information related to the physical location of the visitor to the visitor. The physical location of the visitor is not used to carry out a designated function as required in an automation environment. *Fukui* discloses a wiring database including a topology map of seating in an airplane, so that personalized messages can be sent to each passenger according to the feature and services selected by the passengers. Here the network devices are the seats in the airplane. The physical location of the devices has nothing to do with a designated function of one device in relation to other

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devices as required in an automation environment. In *Fukui*, the function of each device in the in-flight entertainment system is independent of each other. The function, such as playing music or displaying a video game, is sent to the seat electronic unit 16 by one of the server networks 10 via a network hub 12 in response to the request by the passenger. Thus, the function of each device is not caused to be carried out by the software program in the device according to the associated physical location. In *Fukui*, the function is "sent" to the device by the server networks 10 according to a request by the passenger, and not by the associated physical location.

For the above reasons, claims 1, 8, 9, 11 and 21 are distinguishable over the cited *Glorikian* and *Fukui* references.

As for claims 2-5, 12-20 and 22-27, they are dependent from claims 1, 11 and 21 and recite features not recited in claims 1, 11 and 21. For reasons regarding claims 1, 11 and 21 above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 12-20 and 22-17 are also distinguishable over the *Glorikian* and *Fukui* references.

CONCLUSION

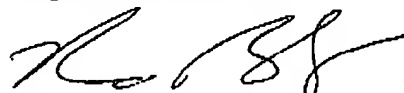
Applicant has amended the claims. As amended, all pending claims are allowable. Early allowance of claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11-27 is earnestly solicited.

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